



# PSC NEWS

## Missouri Public Service Commission

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **EXPANDED CALLING OPTION COMING TO WASHINGTON, UNION, BEAUFORT AND ST. CLAIR EXCHANGE CUSTOMERS OF AT&T MISSOURI**

JEFFERSON CITY—Starting October 30, 2006, Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P. d/b/a AT&T Missouri (AT&T Missouri) will implement an expanded calling plan for the AT&T Missouri exchanges of Beaufort, St. Clair, Union and Washington. Those exchanges will be added to Tier 5 of the current St. Louis Metropolitan Calling Area (MCA) plan under an agreement previously approved by the Public Service Commission.

MCA service offers both incoming and outgoing calling benefits. Under the MCA plan, subscribing customers in the Tier 5 exchanges can call all MCA-central, MCA-1, MCA-2, MCA-3 and MCA-4 customers and all MCA-5 subscribers as a local call. Conversely, any customers located in the MCA central Tier, Tiers 1, 2 and MCA subscribers in Tiers 3, 4 and 5 can call a Tier 5 MCA subscriber on a toll-free basis.

Under the agreement, MCA service will be available as an optional service in the Beaufort, St. Clair, Union and Washington exchanges for an additional \$32.50 a month (residential) and \$70.70 a month (business).

**Customers choosing to subscribe to MCA service will need to change their telephone number to an MCA-designated number as is the case with other exchanges in the St. Louis metropolitan area where MCA service is an optional service.**

The agreement approved by the Commission on February 23, 2006, was filed by AT&T Missouri, the Office of the Public Counsel and the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission.

The Commission recommends that customers carefully evaluate their calling patterns before choosing any type of plan. There are numerous offerings available for both residential and business customers. Customers are encouraged to contact providers to get information on what various plans cover and the cost of each before subscribing to any plan.

Resources for comparing calling plans and links to consumer information websites can be found at the Commission's website, <http://www.psc.mo.gov/consumer-information.asp>